# How Good Wayfinding and Exemplary Arts Programs Improve the Healthcare Environment and the Healing Experience

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#### What is Wayfinding?

- It is a planned system of giving directions to your institution from any place on your campus to any destination on your campus. The verbal system gives instructions with no more than three items:
  - · Campus Entrance
  - · Parking Area
  - · Building Entrance
  - · Zone/Elevator or Street/Elevator
  - Floor
  - · Department/Room Number
- Signs, visual markers, and interior elements are all integral reinforcements to the system.

#### Wayfinding is a philosophy.

It is a method to look at the entire facility to:

- · Improve customer satisfaction
- Positively affect operational outcomes
- Be a performance improvement tool
- · Be an extension of the organizational brand

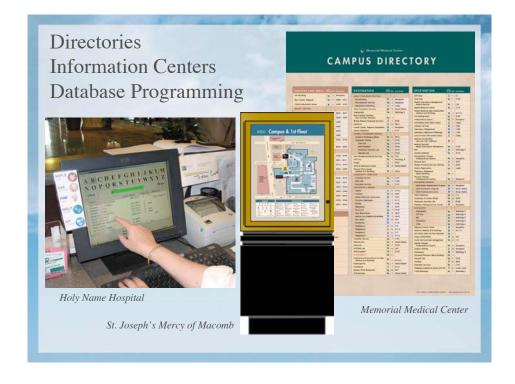
#### Wayfinding Components

Wayfinding is more than signs.







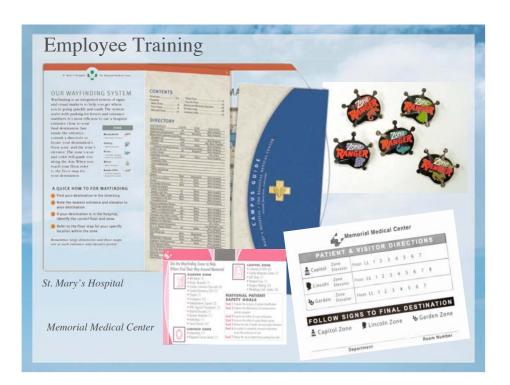












#### Wayfinding is a philosophy.

A successful project is a coordinated effort between partners who adhere to a set of guiding principles.

#### Valuable Team Members include:

- · Facility Master Plan Team
- Architect, Landscape Architect and Interior Design Team
- · Operations Team
- · Signage and Art Team
- · Public Relations Team
- IT Department

#### Wayfinding is a Core Component of Customer Service

It encompasses everything that influences the patient experience.

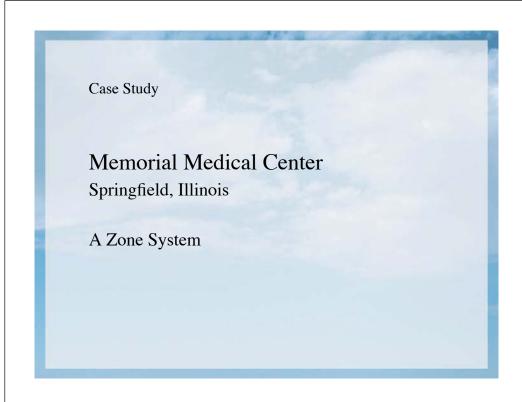
- Customer relations
- · Admitting, registration, discharge
- Elevator utilization
- Patient, equipment, food services, and material flow

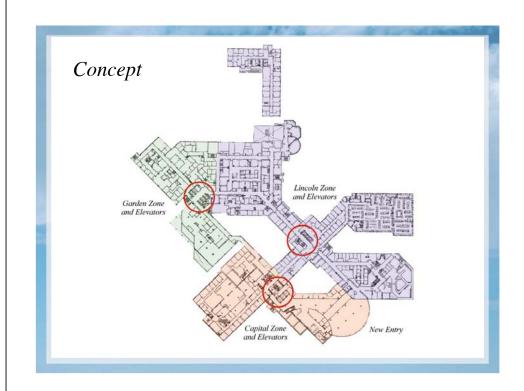
#### Wayfinding is a Core Component of Customer Service

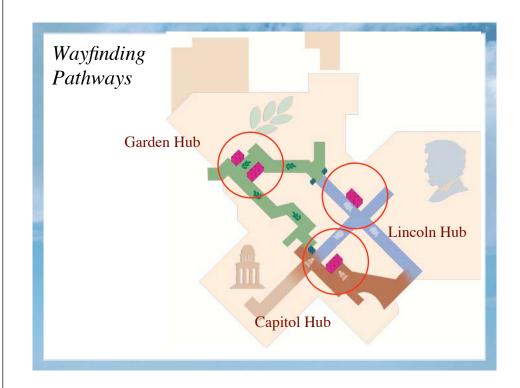
#### **Disney Approach to Customer Service and Wayfinding**

We create a culture through our intentions and interactions.

- Make all interactions count.
- · Employees reinforce the brand
- Employees are always very positive and supportive of the customer and the system.





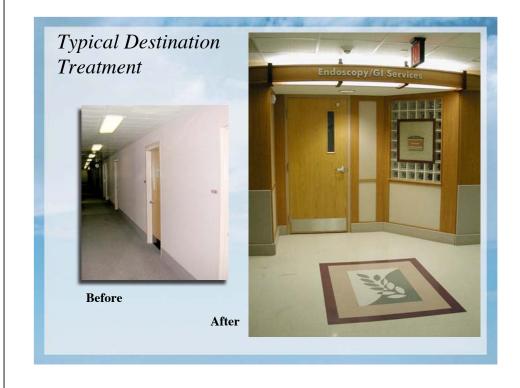








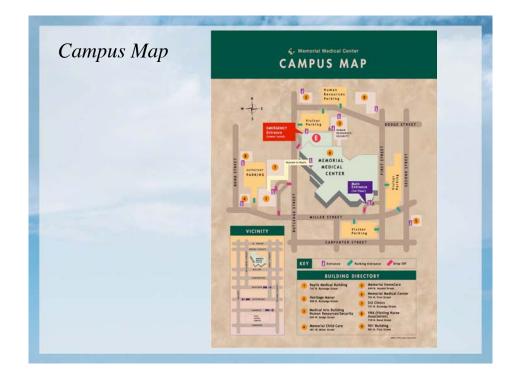


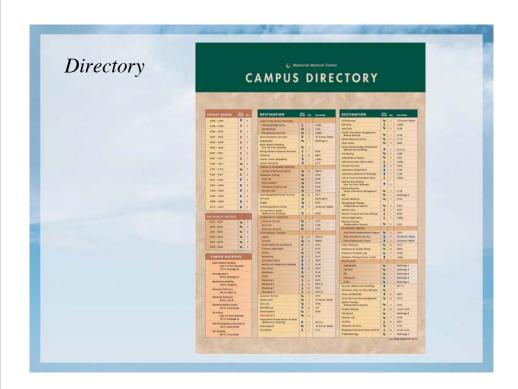


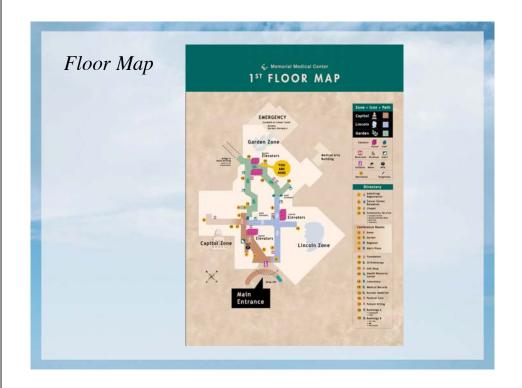






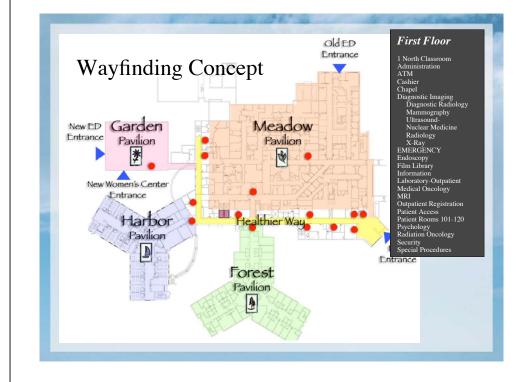




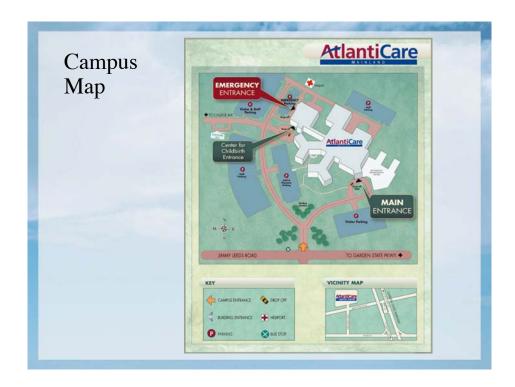


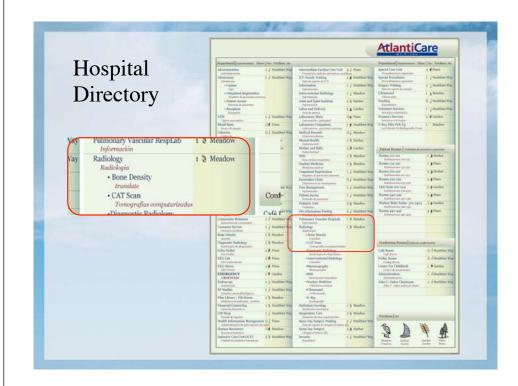
AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center Pomona, New Jersey

A Fully Integrated Art and Wayfinding System

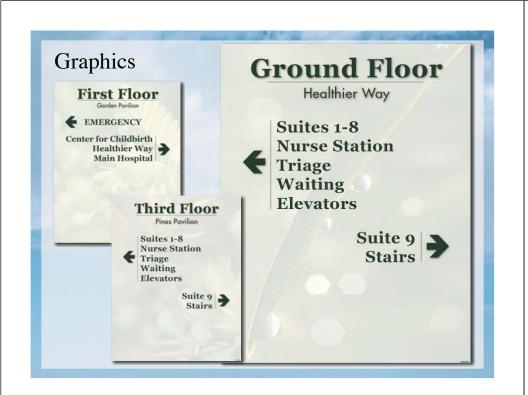










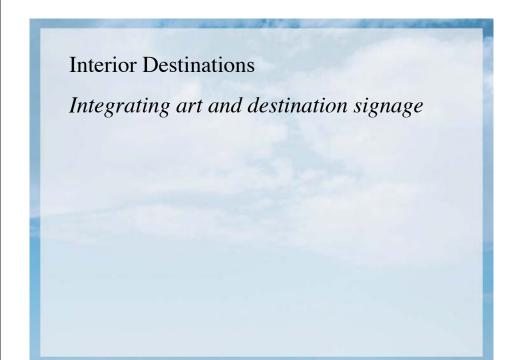




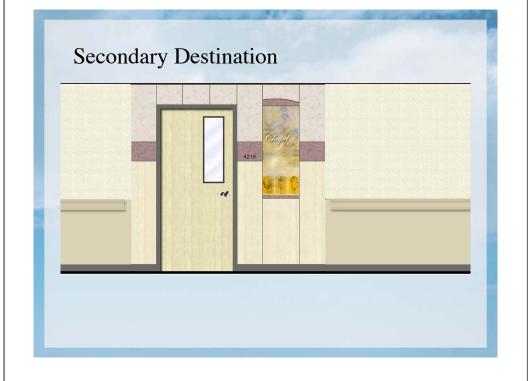


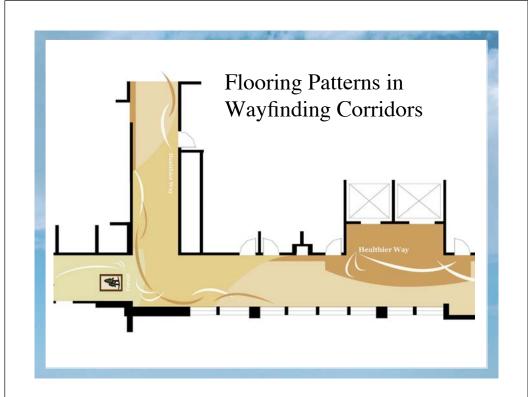


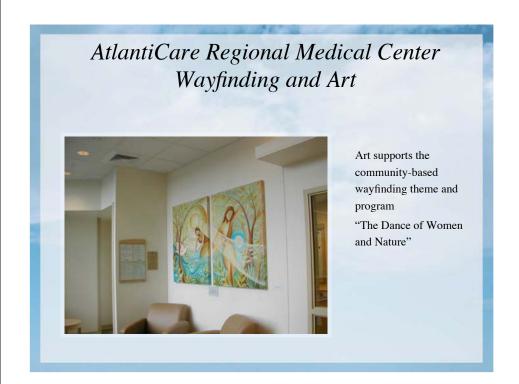














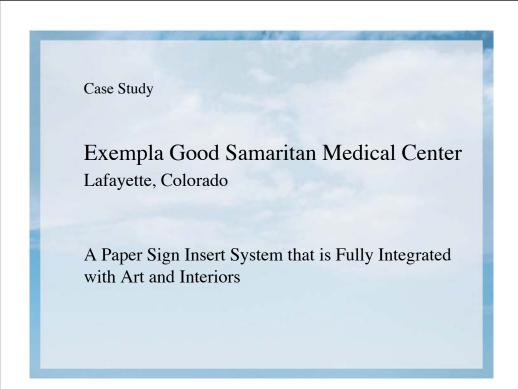






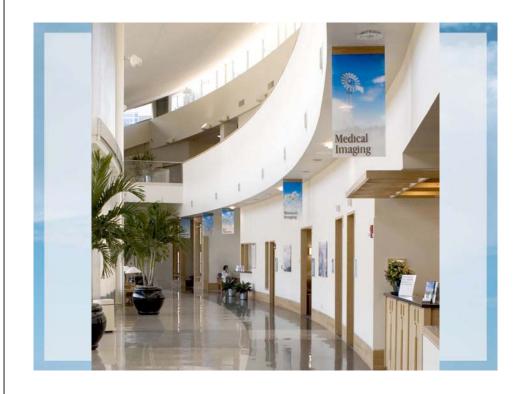






















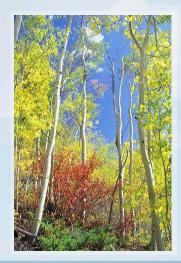








#### Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center Wayfinding and Art



Art supports the community-based wayfinding theme and program

- Sky
- The Commons
- · Clear Creek
- Longs Peak

## The Aesthetics Approach

- Community-Based Regional Programs
- Evidence-Based
- Culturally Appropriate
- · Economically Sound
- Improve Public and Community Relations
- Integrate with Architecture and Interiors



# Community-Based Regional Programs

#### These programs:

- Highlight and utilize regional artists
- Provide economic support for the community
- Become a source of public pride



#### Evidence-Based Design

- Evidence-based design is the deliberate attempt to make building decisions on the best available research and verification to create a healing environment.
- Over the last ten years there have been over 100 published studies on the attributes of including arts in the healthcare environment.



#### Evidence-Based Design

"Nature is one of the most successful sources of positive distraction. Simply viewing a mural of a water scene has been shown to alter electrical activity in the brain, reduce levels of stress hormones and ease muscle tension."



Roger Ulrich Texas A&M University

# Evidence-Based Design

"Good art can do good things for people and psychologically appropriate art can have a positive effect on recovery. Clinical studies have demonstrated that art can have positive therapeutic benefits such as less medication, less pain, improved attitudes."

> Roger Ulrich Texas A&M University



# Culturally Appropriate

Research the community and hospital culture:

- Identify patient populations
- Discuss appropriate imagery
- Look at the surrounding community
- Emphasize a theme



# Improves Public and Community Relations

Press and Public Relations

- Involving community artists in the hospital makes great media stories
- Local artists become ambassadors for the hospital
- Donors may want to sponsor art
- Prints of featured pieces may be sold in the gift shop



#### Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center Sample Art Mission

To create a place where arts coexist with people, process and the physical environment to create an experience with such compelling value that our patients and their families, physicians, and employees each experience the benefits.



## Sample Arts Program Goals

- 1. Use art to create a sense of place and enhance our healing environment.
- 2. Use evidence-based methodologies to select artwork that facilitates the healing process.
- 3. Use art to bring the beauty of nature inside.



## Sample Arts Program Goals

- 4. Provide patient-focused arts experiences that promote and sustain wellness.
- 5. Provide a visual and cultural bridge that supports the diverse communities the hospital serves.



# Sample Arts Program Goals

- 6. Capture the essence of the story of the institution.
- 7. Complement the architecture and interior design of the hospital.
- 8. Provide unique inspiration and positive distractions for patients, staff and visitors.













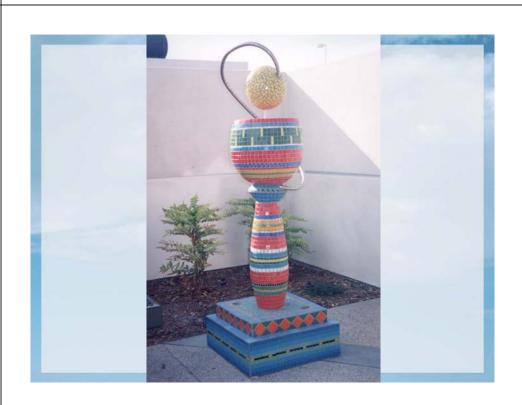
















## Evaluate the Arts Program

- Develop questionnaires for patients, families and staff to quantify if the program met the preliminary goals.
- Add questions about art to hospital patient satisfaction reports.
- Poll employees about comments they hear and observations they have on the arts program.

# Patient Evaluations may include:

- Perception of wait time
- Comfort
- Calming environment
- Caring staff
- Interest in the comfort of the patient's family
- Overall satisfaction of the patient

## Staff Evaluations may include:

- Staff morale
- Retention
- Staff perception of a calming environment
- Staff perception on improved customer satisfaction
- Medical errors
- Staff appreciation of work environment

#### **Examples of Controlled Studies**

on the effect of art in health in diverse settings

- Aesthetic environments shorten post-operative recovery and hospital stay
- Art making reduces anxiety in patients with cancer and blood diseases
- Art making raises circulating endorphin and natural killer cell levels
- Cooperative play-acting and theater games raise pain thresholds and mood

#### **Examples of Controlled Studies**

on the effect of art in health in diverse settings

- Creative writing lessens the physical symptoms of asthma and arthritis
- Creative writing reduces anxiety, depression and doctor visits
- Dancing improves circulation coordination and alertness in elders
- Music enhances sleep patterns alertness and growth of newborns

## **Examples of Controlled Studies**

on the effect of art in health in diverse settings

- Music lowers state and trait anxiety in patients after myocardial infarctions
- Music raises pain thresholds and reduces postoperative pain medications
- Sharing stories regularly lengthens lifespan of advanced cancer patients
- Sustained laughter lowers blood pressure and stress hormone levels

